

FOUNDER OF USAID-FUNDED NGO NAMED “HERO OF GLOBAL HEALTH”

MRS. KHAN WINS MAJOR INTERNATIONAL AWARD FROM TIME MAGAZINE

DHAKA, OCTOBER 27 -- Next week in New York, Mrs. Mustari Khan, the co-founder of USAID-funded Concerned Women for Family Development (CWFD) will be honored at Time Magazine's Global Health Summit. “We were looking for people who had pioneered innovative ways to improve the health of poor people around the world,” says TIME Sciences Editor Phillip Elmer-DeWitt.

For 25 years, Mrs. Khan has worked in local slums persuading women to space their births and to use family planning. She convinces mothers-in-law and husbands that they don't need more than two children and that female children have value. She has worked for women's education, and promoted micro-credit opportunities for girls and young women to get job training and start small businesses.

CWFD is an all-volunteer organization run by Bangladeshi women for Bangladeshi women. Since its inception in 1976, CWFD has sought to reach an impressively large number of people: 1.34 million live in its catchment area. CWFD operates 17 static and 565 satellite clinics in Dhaka and eight other municipalities. Its catchment area population is 1.4 million; CWFD clinics serve about 45 thousand customers per month. USAID's NGO Service Delivery Program (NSDP) provides CWFD with financial and technical assistance.

NSDP (the NGO Service Delivery Program) is a consortium of international development partners which provides technical assistance and support to a network of 35 Bangladeshi health care NGOs. NSDP, which is USAID's largest program in Bangladesh, works to enhance the quality of basic health care at the clinic and community level for millions of Bangladeshi families.



The NSDP network of 317 permanent “Smiling Sun” clinics, 8,000 satellite clinics, and over 7,000 community health workers, plays a significant role in providing families with high-quality low-cost reproductive health, maternal health, and child health care services. Over a million people visit NSDP providers for family planning services each year, and over 200,000 pregnant women receive antenatal care. Almost three quarters of children living in urban areas served by NSDP have received all their childhood immunizations. Almost half of all children who live in the program’s urban areas and almost a third who live in NSDP’s rural areas receive treatment for acute respiratory tract infections –one of the most significant causes of infant mortality in Bangladesh.

TIME magazine will focus America’s attention on global health during the TIME Global Health Summit. Supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the TIME Summit will convene leaders in the fields of medicine, government, business, public policy, and the arts to develop actions and solutions to health crises.

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Note: A Bangla translation of this article is also available from the American Center. If you are interested in the translation, please call the American Center Press Section (Tel: 8813440-4, Fax: 9881677; e-mail: DhakaPA@state.gov; Website: [http:// dhaka.usembassy.gov](http://dhaka.usembassy.gov) (New)